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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,866	07/08/2002	Etienne Claeys	ARNO118771	5683

26389 7590 08/19/2003

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EXAMINER

DIXON, MERRICK L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1774

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER
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DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 30 days month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 32 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☒ Claims 1 - 32 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

MERRICK DIXON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES -

Art Unit: 1774

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The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 1774

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Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-18 and 21-24, drawn to strengthening layer, classified in class 428, subclass 295.4.
- II. Claims 19 and 25-31 are, drawn to method of forming a resin composite, classified in class 264, subclass 108.
- III. Claim 20 is, drawn to a composite, classified in class 428, subclass 615.
- IV. Claims 32 is, drawn to device for forming composite, classified in class 264, subclass 555.

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Inventions I and II are distinct and separate from each other because Invention II is a method for making resin composite while Invention I relates to a layer material.

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Inventions I and III are distinct and separate from each other because Invention III relates to a composite while Invention I relates to a layer material.

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Inventions I and IV are distinct and separate from each other because Invention IV relates to a system for making composite while Invention I relates to a layer material.

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Inventions II and III are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be made by coextrusion.

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Inventions II and IV are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case the system can be used for lamination.

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Inventions IV and III are related as apparatus and product made. The inventions in this relationship are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the apparatus as claimed is not an obvious apparatus for making the product and the apparatus can be used for making a different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different apparatus (MPEP § 806.05(g)). In this case the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different device such as injection molding apparatus.

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Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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A telephone call was made to D. Shelton on 4-16-03 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

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### **Crystal Plaza Three Fax Center**

A facsimile center has been established in Crystal Plaza 3. The hours of operations are Mondays through Friday, 8:45 to 4:45 PM. This new location should be used in all instances when faxing any correspondence to Group 1700. The Patent Examining Fax Center new telecopier numbers are (703) 305-3599 for all After Finals and 703-305-5408 for all others. Use of the new Crystal Plaza 3 center will facilitate rapid delivery of materials to the group. The faxing of all papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 O.G. 30 ( November 15, 1989).

**New!** Applicants who wish to send a facsimile (draft copies) for the examiner's immediate review can now do so by using the Examiner Dixon's personal fax number at 703-872-9514. **NOTE: All facsimiles sent to the examiner's personal fax number should be in draft-forms and will be treated as informal. Same facsimiles will not be entered in the related applications unless otherwise noted by the examiner.**

**Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose number is (703)308-0661.**

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Any questions concerning the instant communication should be directed to Examiner Dixon, at  
703-308-0013, Mondays to Thursdays, between 12 noon and 8 PM, eastern time .

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Merrick Dixon', with a stylized circular flourish at the end.

Merrick Dixon

Primary Examiner

Group 1700